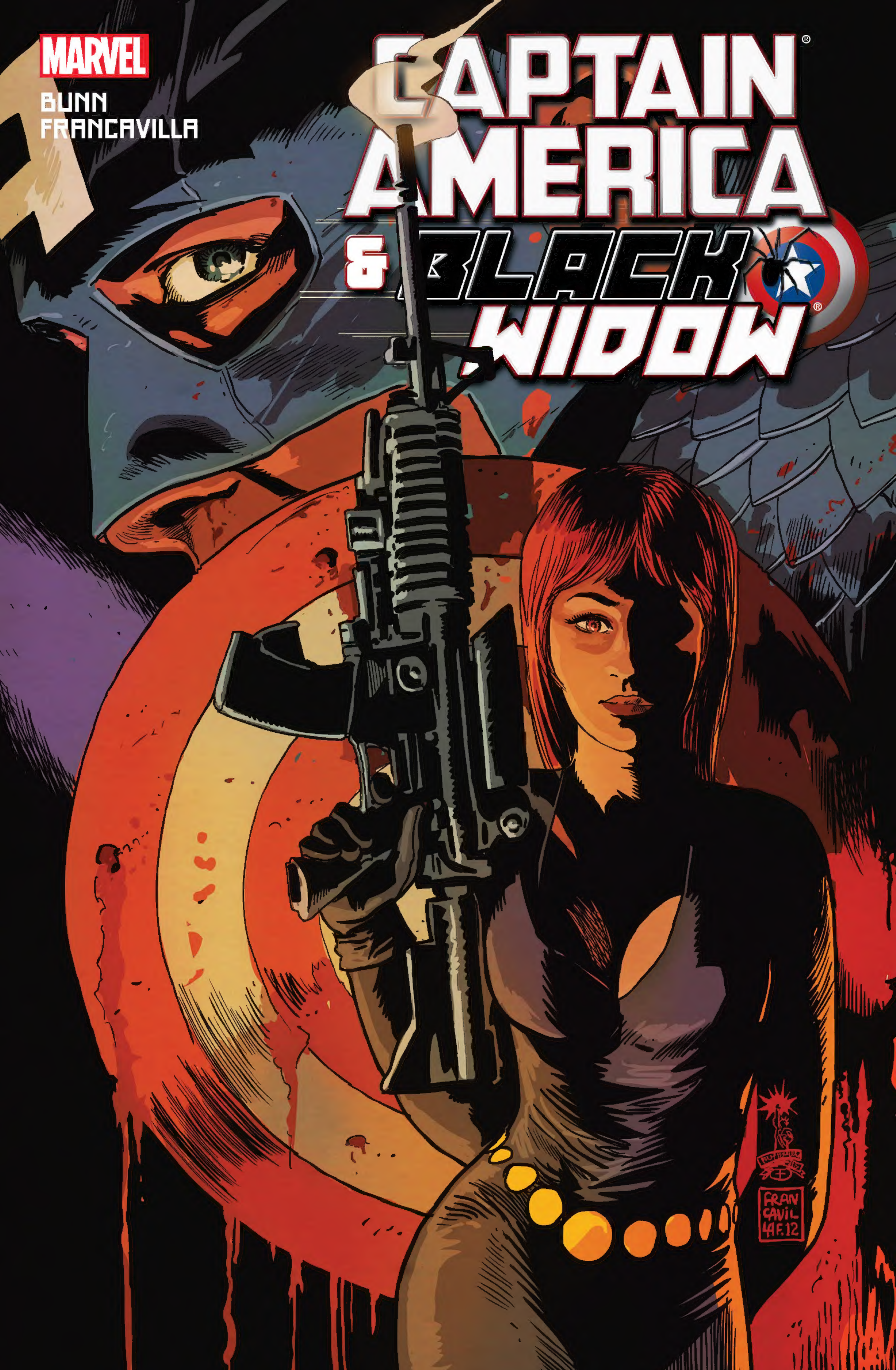
MARVEL

BUNN
FRANCAVILLA

# CAPTAIN AMERICA® & BLACK WIDOW®



# MAYHEM IN THE MULTIVERSE!

Captain America continues to peel back the mysteries behind enigmatic femme fatale Kashmir Vennema — and what he finds puts him at odds with an alternate universe-version of the world's deadliest super-spy, the Black Widow! When the real Widow arrives to take down the dangerous doppelganger, she and Cap team up to hunt down their common foe Vennema and end up on a wild goose chase through countless worlds — fending off alien war machines, super-powered kill squads and the terrifying monster Lizard-Ock. The startling truth behind Kash and Venemma Multiversal is revealed in this jaw-dropping battle for control of the multiverse!

Collecting *Captain America And Black Widow #636-640*,
written by **Cullen Bunn** and illustrated by **Francesco Francavilla**.

MARVEL

BUNN
FRANCAVILLA

# CAPTAIN AMERICA & BLACK WIDOW

FRAN CAVIL 4.F.12

# CAPTAIN AMERICA® & BLACK WIDOW®

MARVEL

636

BUNN

FRANCAVILLA

© 2012 Marvel Characters, Inc. All rights reserved.

WWW.MARVEL.COM

# CAPTAIN AMERICA

STEVE ROGERS
PEAK STRENGTH, REFLEXES AND ENDURANCE.
TACTICAL GENIUS. THE SUPER-SOLDIER OF WORLD WAR II.
LEADER OF THE AVENGERS.

# BLACK WIDOW

NATASHA ROMANOFF.
FORMER RUSSIAN SUPER-SPY. CURRENT S.H.I.E.L.D. AGENT. AVENGER.
MASTER OF STEALTH, COMBAT AND STRATEGY.


**CULLEN BUNN** WRITER **FRANCESCO FRANCAVILLA** ARTIST & COVER
**VC'S JOE CARAMAGNA** LETTERER & PRODUCTION
**JAKE THOMAS** ASSISTANT EDITOR **LAUREN SANKOVITCH** EDITOR
**AXEL ALONSO** EDITOR IN CHIEF **JOE QUESADA** CHIEF CREATIVE OFFICER
**DAN BUCKLEY** PUBLISHER **ALAN FINE** EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

CAPTAIN AMERICA CREATED BY JOE SIMON & JACK KIRBY



TO FIND MARVEL COMICS AT A LOCAL COMIC AND HOBBY SHOP, GO TO WWW.COMICSHOPLOCATOR.COM OR CALL 1-888-COMICBOOK.

© 2012 Marvel Characters, Inc. All rights reserved. All characters featured in this issue and the distinctive names and likenesses thereof, and all related indicia are trademarks of Marvel Characters, Inc. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons, and or institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental.

Central Park.
New York City.

PACKING A GUN IN THE BIRD SEED, LOUIS?

WHY SO PARANOID?

ONE CAN NEVER BE TOO CAUTIOUS WHEN DEALING WITH THE *BLACK WIDOW*, EH?

ESPECIALLY NOT THESE DAYS.

THE WORLD IS SO MUCH BIGGER THAN WE COMPREHEND.

THIS IS HER? *KASHMIR VENNEMA*?

ACCORDING TO THIS, SHE'S NO LONGER A THREAT. *CAPTAIN AMERICA* APPREHENDED HER A FEW WEEKS AGO.

THAT'S TRUE...

...BUT WITH A WOMAN LIKE KASH, IMPRISONMENT WILL BARELY SLOW HER DOWN.

Location Unknown.

I APPRECIATE YOUR UNDERSTANDING, MR. PRESIDENT.

IT IS NEVER MY PREFERENCE TO CHANGE A MEETING PLACE ON SUCH SHORT NOTICE...

...BUT SOMETIMES THESE THINGS CANNOT BE AVOIDED.

AS YOU MIGHT IMAGINE, OUR NEGOTIATIONS WOULD PROVE MOST *INTERESTING* TO OTHER PARTIES.

I THOUGHT YOU MIGHT VALUE THE ADDITIONAL PRIVACY A *LAST MINUTE* ADJUSTMENT MIGHT AFFORD.

DO NOT *PRESUME* TO UNDERSTAND WHAT MIGHT BE APPRECIATED, MS. VENNEMA.

YOUR EXPLANATIONS... YOUR *EXCUSES*... ARE NOT DESIRED OR NECESSARY.

ALL THAT MATTERS IS THAT YOU'VE BROUGHT THE ITEM YOU PROMISED.

AND IT APPEARS YOU HAVE *FAILED* EVEN IN THIS.

DO YOU THINK *DR. DOOM* IS ONE TO BE TRIFLED WITH?

MY FATHER WAS A USED CAR SALESMAN. HE TAUGHT ME MORE THAN ONE TRICK OF THE TRADE.

MR. PRESIDENT, IF I MAY...

I'D ASK THAT YOU LISTEN TO WHAT I HAVE TO SAY BEFORE YOU WEAR YOURSELF OUT WITH ALL THE RANTING.

IT'S TRUE. THIS IS **NOT** THE **COSMIC CUBE**. WE WERE UNABLE TO ATTAIN THAT PARTICULAR ITEM.

BUT THIS LITTLE BEAUTY CAN PROVE JUST AS VALUABLE TO THE MAN OF **VISION**.

WHAT YOU ARE LOOKING AT IS A WEAPONIZED WORLD.

THIS DEVICE CONTAINS AN ENTIRE PLANET POPULATED BY OMEGA-LEVEL **PSYCHICS**.

DESPITE THEIR VAST MENTAL ABILITIES, THE INDIGENOUS LIFE IS RELATIVELY PRIMITIVE.

THEY ARE UNAWARE THAT THEIR PLANET IS USED TO POWER THIS WEAPON.

NOR DO THEY KNOW THAT THE PERSON WHO HOLDS THIS CUBE CAN HARNESS AND FOCUS THE COMBINED POWERS OF EVERY CREATURE IMPRISONED WITHIN.

ESSENTIALLY, IT PUTS AN **ARMY** OF TELEPATHS IN THE PALM OF YOUR HAND.

DOOM IS... INTRIGUED.

RESHAPING THE THOUGHTS OF THOSE AROUND YOU IS JUST ONE OF **MANY** APPLICATIONS, AS I'M SURE YOU CAN IMAGINE.

I THINK IT'S SAFE TO SAY DAD WOULD BE PROUD...OR JEALOUS. I'VE CLOSED BIGGER SALES THAN HE EVER DREAMED OF.

BLAM

HHK!

BLAM BLAM BLAM

OF COURSE, MY FATHER NEVER HAD TO WORRY ABOUT GETTING GUNNED DOWN ON THE JOB.

SNIPER!

TAKE COVER!

NONSENSE! DOOM DOES NOT--

BLAM

HE DIED ON THE JOB...OF A HEART ATTACK.

HE HAD JUST SOLD A LEMON TO A COLLEGE KID.

USING AUTO-CALIBRATION VARIATION AMMUNITION...

...NOT NATIVE TO THIS WORLD...

...TURNING OUR TECH AGAINST US...

NEED TO STOP THEM... FIND OUT WHO--

MAYBE I'M WRONG ABOUT HIM.

BLAM

D-DON'T KNOW... WHAT YOU'VE DONE...

DESTROYED THE CUBE...

KILLED THEM...

USELESS TO YOU...

MAYBE HE WOULDN'T BE JEALOUS OF ME AT ALL.

I'M NOT HERE TO **STEAL** FROM YOU, MS. VENNEMA.

BUT YOU AND YOUR ASSOCIATES ONLY EVER STICK YOUR HEADS OUT OF HIDING WHEN YOU'RE RUNNING ONE OF THESE OPERATIONS.

I REALIZE THAT SOMEONE SHOOTING UP YOUR BUSINESS MEETINGS HAS A NEGATIVE IMPACT ON CASH FLOW.

BUT TRUST ME--

BLAM

--THIS IS WORSE.

MAYBE HE'D BE DISAPPOINTED IN--

NUMBER 12 HAS BEEN ELIMINATED.

KASHMIR VENNEMA

"MOVING ON TO THE NEXT TARGET."

The Raft Maximum Security Prison

NO OFFENSE, STEVE.

BUT MAYBE YOU SHOULD GO BACK TO WEARING THE *HELMET*. MAYBE YOU'VE BEEN PUNCHED IN THE HEAD ONE TOO MANY TIMES?

REMIND ME AGAIN WHY I ASKED YOU ALONG, HAWKEYE?

OBVIOUSLY, YOU NEED MY KEEN EYE FOR DETAIL AND NEAR HOLMESIAN OBSERVATIONAL SKILLS.

ALSO, YOU HAVE SOME OF THE WORST INTERROGATION-ROOM MANNER I'VE EVER WITNESSED.

BESIDES... LIKE YOU...I *KNOW* KASHMIR VENNEMA.

THAT'S RIGHT.

AND I NEED YOU TO *CONFIRM* MY ASSESSMENT--

MY DAD ALWAYS SAID I'D END UP IN PRISON. HE NEVER APPROVED OF THE *CHOICES* I MADE.

--THAT THIS IS *NOT* KASHMIR VENNEMA.

BUT YOU ALREADY KNOW THAT I AM WHO I SAY I AM, CAPTAIN.

YOU'VE INTERROGATED ME DOZENS OF TIMES. YOU'VE HAD YOUR ASSOCIATES RUN COUNTLESS TESTS.

YOU'VE MATCHED MY DNA WITH WHATEVER SAMPLES YOUR GHOULS GATHERED FROM THE--WHAT?--SCENE OF THE CRIME?

YOU'VE EVEN HAD YOUR MIND-READER FRIENDS TEST THE LIMITS OF MY ANTI-PSI CONDITIONING.

I AM KASHMIR VENNEMA.

YEAH, BUT I FOR ONE AM NOT CONVINCED. YOU CERTAINLY LOOK A LITTLE DIFFERENT.

YOU KNOW HOW SOMETIMES PEOPLE SAY, "YOU CLEAN UP NICELY"?

WELL, THIS? THIS IS THE *OPPOSITE* OF THAT.

HAWKEYE, RIGHT?

DIDN'T ANYONE TELL YOU THAT THE COLOR OF YOUR UNIFORM WAS OUT-OF-DATE WHEN PURPLE RAIN HIT THE BARGAIN CD BIN?

DAD WAS A COUNSELOR FOR TROUBLED TEENS.

I WANTED NOTHING MORE THAN TO FRONT AN ALL-GIRL METAL BAND.

OKAY. *DEFINITELY* AN IMPOSTER.

THE KASH I MET WAS MUCH MORE POLITE... EVEN WHEN SHE WAS LETTING INNOCENT PEOPLE GET EATEN BY DINO-ZOMBIES.

CUT THE JOKES, HAWKEYE.

WHAT?

WHAT DO YOU WANT ME TO SAY? THIS LOOKS LIKE OUR GIRL.

SO, YEAH...I'M NO STRANGER TO DISAPPROVING GLARES.

BUT THAT'S NOT GOOD ENOUGH FOR AMERICA, IS IT?

HE THINKS I'M A *DECOY*. HE THINKS THE *REAL* KASH IS STILL OUT THERE SELLING WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION TO ALL SORTS OF BAD, BAD MEN.

LOOKS CAN BE DECEIVING, AND THAT DRIVES CAPTAIN AMERICA ABSOLUTELY *NUTS*.

SEE? SHE THINKS YOU'RE CRAZY, TOO.

WHAT I THINK IS THAT YOUR *PRIORITIES* ARE ALL OUT OF WACK.

THE RED SKULL...DR. DOOM...LORD GARRISON...THE SKRULLS...

DON'T YOU HAVE BETTER THINGS TO WORRY ABOUT THAN STOPPING A LITTLE *FREE ENTERPRISE*?

FIRST OF ALL, YOUR "*FREE ENTERPRISE*" INCLUDED UNLEASHING A COMPUTER VIRUS THAT THREATENED TO BRING SOCIETY CRASHING DOWN.

AND YOU DID IT WITHOUT SO MUCH AS BATTING AN EYE...LIKE YOU'VE DONE THAT SORT OF THING ROUTINELY.

THE BAND PLAYED IRON MAIDEN COVERS...BUT I ADMIT...SOMETIMES WE THREW IN A VIXEN JAM FOR GOOD MEASURE.

WE CALLED OURSELVES "*PRETTY APOCALYPSE*."

SECOND OF ALL...

WHO IS LORD GARRISON?

HMM.

HE'S NOT ONE OF YOURS, I PRESUME?

SORRY. I MUST'VE HAD SOME BAD INTEL.

AW...ARE WE DEALING WITH AN *ALTERNATE REALITY* HERE?

I HAVE A HARD ENOUGH TIME KEEPING *THIS* ONE STRAIGHT.

THE LIMITS OF YOUR IMAGINATION ARE STAGGERING.

THEN WHY DON'T YOU *ENLIGHTEN* ME?

WHAT AM I DEALING WITH HERE?

YOU'RE ASKING THE WRONG QUESTION.

WHAT DO YOU *WANT*?

THAT'S MORE LIKE IT.

I'VE GROWN TIRED OF THE GAME, YOU KNOW? I WANT TO SETTLE DOWN.

I WANT THE WHITE PICKET FENCE...AND THE PARDONS AND NEW IDENTITY AND WITNESS PROTECTION THAT GOES WITH IT.

PROTECTION? FROM WHOM?

THERE ARE SOME VERY *BAD PEOPLE* OUT THERE WHO MIGHT DO ME HARM IF I COOPERATE WITH YOU.

BUT FIRST THINGS FIRST. YOU MAKE SURE I GET WHAT I WANT...

"...AND I'LL MAKE SURE YOU'RE PROPERLY INTRODUCED."

Miami, Florida.

YOU SURE YOU WANT TO DO THIS ALONE, STEVE? A LITTLE BACKUP NEVER HURT ANYONE.

JUST SPOKE TO HAWKEYE, AND HE SEEMS GENUINELY HURT THAT YOU DIDN'T ASK HIM ALONG.

I'M FINE, TONY.

LAST TIME HAWKEYE AND I WENT ON AN OP TOGETHER, HE WAS A LITTLE TOO HASTY WITH THE ARROWS.

I'M MORE INTERESTED IN ASSESSING WHAT'S GOING ON THAN BRINGING IN BAD GUYS.

FAMOUS LAST WORDS.

BUT AT LEAST YOU'VE GOT ME WATCHING OVER YOU.

THANKS... BUT DON'T THINK I'VE FORGOTTEN THAT I WAS RIGHT ABOUT KASH.

YOU OWE ME A STEAK.

I NEVER BACK OUT OF A BET. THE BEST STEAK ON THE SIZZLER'S MENU IS ALL YOURS.

DON'T KNOCK THE SIZZLER.

WOULDN'T DREAM OF IT.

ALTHOUGH, TO BE CLEAR, IF I HAD BEEN RIGHT, YOU WOULD'VE HAD TO PAWN YOUR SHIELD IN ORDER TO AFFORD THE MEAL YOU'D BE BUYING.

AND, IF YOU WANT, WE CAN GO **DOUBLE OR NOTHING** ON WHETHER OR NOT YOU SIT THIS ONE OUT.

YOU'RE ON.

ALL RIGHT. GAME FACE, CAP.

YOU'VE GOT **MOVEMENT** UP AHEAD.

I SEE THEM.

SECRET EMPIRE.

THOSE GUYS. WHATEVER THEY'RE BUYING, IT CAN'T BE GOOD.

I'M GETTING SOME MINOR INTERFERENCE, CAP.

I MIGHT NEED :KKZZK: OVER TO ANOTHER :ZZZKK:

:SSKKK-RRKKKK:

VRRR

I THINK YOU'LL BE EXCITED BY THE SELECTION, GENTLEMEN.

A DOZEN SPECIMENS, SELECTED FROM A DOZEN DIFFERENT WORLDS AND *INDOCTRINATED* INTO SERVING...

...WELL...

...INTO SERVING WHATEVER CAUSE WE *PROGRAM* INTO THEM.

TONY? TONY ARE YOU READING ME?

THEY'RE SELLING *PEOPLE*.

GUESS YOU DON'T OWE ME THAT STEAK AFTER ALL.

WHO IS THIS?

WHO HAVE YOU BROUGHT?

COME NOW. NO MONEY HAS BEEN EXCHANGED.

SURELY YOU DON'T EXPECT ME TO FULLY OPEN THE KIMONO WITHOUT A DEPOSIT AT THE VERY LEAST.

CAPTAIN AMERICA!

I'M FAIRLY CERTAIN HE'S NOT INCLUDED IN THE--

NO! LOOK!

CAPTAIN--

THWOCK!

CHOCK!

THWAP!

DAMN!

COUNTLESS WORLDS...

...AND *THAT MAN* IS ALWAYS A THORN IN MY SIDE!

BLAM

BLAM

I'M AFRAID I CAN'T HAVE YOU BEATING UP MY CUSTOMERS, CAPTAIN.

LET'S SEE IF YOU BLEED RED, WHITE, AND--

KABLAM

WHAT THE--

WHO'S FIRING?

WHERE DID THAT COME FROM?

BLAM

BLAM

BLAM

BLAM

BLAM

HHT!

AAGK!

RRGH!

WIDOW?

WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

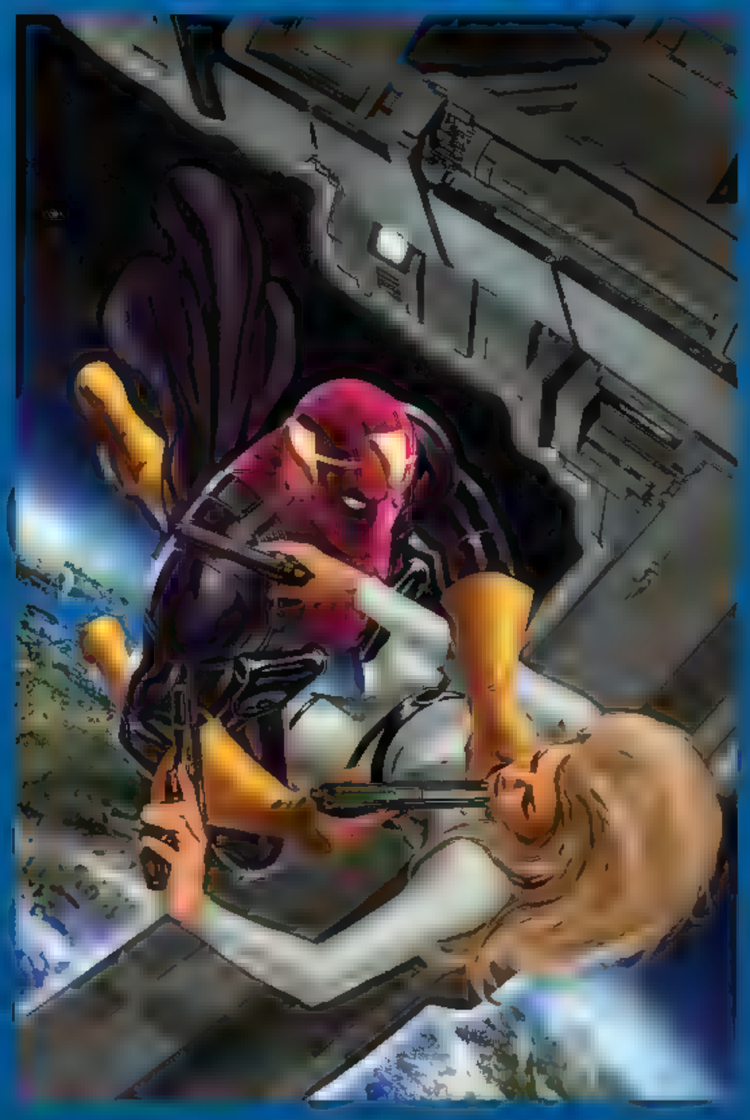
LULLEN BUNN '12 & FRAN GAVIL LAE '12

To Be Continued...

# NEXT SUPER HERO ISSUE: HORROR!

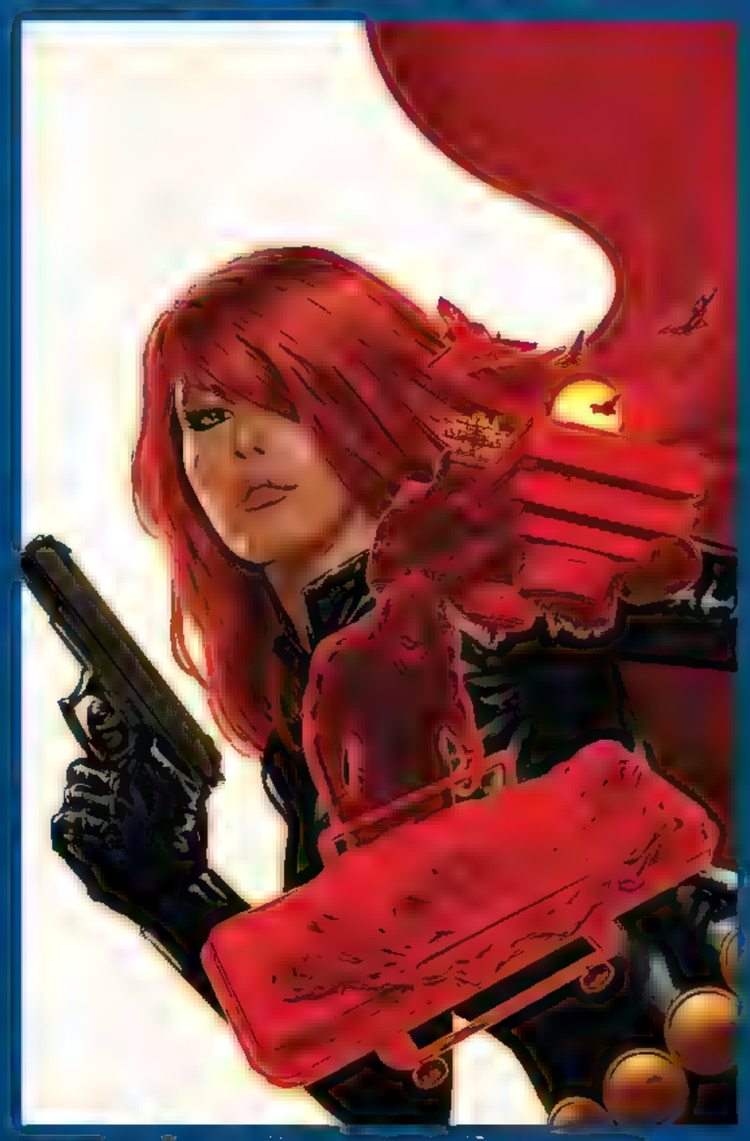
ON SALE

CAPTAIN AMERICA #17



OUTER SPACE SHOOT-OUT!
ON SALE!

WINTER SOLDIER #10



BLACK WIDOW HUNT!
ON SALE!

MARVEL

637

BUNN
FRANCAVILLA

# CAPTAIN AMERICA® & BLACK WIDOW®

© 2012 Marvel Characters, Inc. All rights reserved.

WWW.MARVEL.COM

# CAPTAIN AMERICA

STEVE ROGERS
PEAK STRENGTH, REFLEXES AND ENDURANCE.
TACTICAL GENIUS. THE SUPER-SOLDIER OF WORLD WAR II.
LEADER OF THE AVENGERS.

# BLACK WIDOW

NATASHA ROMANOFF
FORMER RUSSIAN SUPER-SPY. CURRENT S.H.I.E.L.D. AGENT. AVENGER.
MASTER OF STEALTH, COMBAT AND STRATEGY.

A NEW PLAYER IN BLACK MARKET WEAPONRY HAS BEEN STIRRING UP TROUBLE FOR CAPTAIN AMERICA: KASHMIR VENNEMA. LOSING HER IN NEW MEXICO, CAP MANAGED TO TAKE HER INTO CUSTODY AFTER AN INCIDENT IN MADRIPOOR WITH IRON MAN. INTERROGATION REVEALED THAT SHE MIGHT NOT BE THE ONLY "KASH" RUNNING AROUND. MEANWHILE, THE BLACK WIDOW HAS BEEN FOLLOWING A LEAD ON "KASH" INDEPENDENTLY. IN MIAMI, A MYSTERY SNIPER TOOK OUT AN ARMS DEAL INCLUDING YET ANOTHER KASH. CAP WAS TOO LATE TO INTERFERE AND FOUND HIMSELF IN THE CROSSHAIRS OF THE SHOOTER: BLACK WIDOW!


CULLEN BUNN WRITER
FRANCESCO FRANCAVILLA ARTIST & COVER
VC'S JOE CARAMAGNA LETTERER & PRODUCTION
JAKE THOMAS ASSISTANT EDITOR
LAUREN SANKOVITCH EDITOR
AXEL ALONSO EDITOR IN CHIEF
JOE QUESADA CHIEF CREATIVE OFFICER
DAN BUCKLEY PUBLISHER
ALAN FINE EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

CAPTAIN AMERICA CREATED BY JOE SIMON & JACK KIRBY



TO FIND MARVEL COMICS AT A LOCAL COMIC AND HOBBY SHOP, GO TO WWW.COMICSHOPLOCATOR.COM OR CALL 1-888-COMICBOOK.

© 2012 Marvel Characters, Inc. All rights reserved. All characters featured in this issue and the distinctive names and likenesses thereof, and all related indicia are trademarks of Marvel Characters, Inc. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons, and or institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental.

Miami, Florida.

NATASHA?

CAPTAIN AMERICA.

WHAT A *TREAT* IT IS, SEEING YOU LIKE THIS.

AND EVEN THOUGH YOU'RE NOT THE MAN I ONCE KNEW...

...THE MAN I ONCE *LOVED*...

...IT'S A GENUINE PLEASURE, *KILLING* YOU ALL OVER AGAIN.

WHA--

SIZZRRAKKK!

*HHT!*

*HAI!*

BLAM BLAM

*UNF!*

WHERE'S YOUR FRIEND?

WHOEVER IT IS, TELL THEM TO COME OUT AND THROW DOWN THEIR WEAPONS OR I'LL--

IF YOU WANTED A FACE-TO-FACE, IT MIGHT HAVE BEEN LESS PAINFUL TO LOOK IN A MIRROR.

BLAM!

SH-SMACK!

UNNNFFH!

STEVE? ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?

LOOK AT YOU...THE **BLACK WIDOW**...MAKING THE SAME MISTAKES I DID.

WORRYING ABOUT HIM... WHEN YOU SHOULD BE FOCUSED ON ME!

AHHN!

CHUNK!

WIDOW-- --HEADS UP!

THANKS FOR THE WARNING.

TANK! K-CHANK!

THOK!

AHH--

HUP!

DAMN, SHE'S FAST.

THHAP!

UGGRK!

GHWOP!

IS SHE--

NOT YET.

I NEED A FEW MINUTES TO RECONCILE THIS AS SOMETHING OTHER THAN A STRANGE KIND OF *SUICIDE* BEFORE I FINISH THE JOB.

I'M JOKING.

MOSTLY.

MY COMM IS STILL DOWN.

DID TONY SEND YOU?

NO. ACTUALLY, YOU'RE JUST *LUCKY*.

I'M HERE ON MY OWN OPERATION.

THEN MAYBE YOU CAN TELL ME WHAT I'M LOOKING AT HERE.

YOUR GUESS IS AS GOOD AS MINE.

SMALL MULTIVERSE?

**Vennema**

**Multiversal HQ.**

WE HAVE AN AGENT DOWN.

FLATLINED.

SOMETIMES, WHEN NOBODY'S WATCHING, I TAKE NAPS AT MY DESK.

THE MISSION'S BEEN COMPROMISED.

SCRAP IT.

AS A CHILD, I DREAMED OF BEING A SUPER HERO.

WE'VE LOST SEVERAL OF THE PYLONS.

THE PERIMETER'S BROKEN.

ANOTHER HIT?

FROM THE LOOKS OF IT.

GUESS WE SHOULD BE GLAD WE'RE NOT FIELD OPERATIVES, HUH?

LIKE ROCKET-LASS OR AGENT AMAZON.

THE PAYLOAD?

IN THE WIND.

SLINGSHOT IT.

WE WON'T HAVE ANY CONTROL OF WHERE WE'RE SENDING IT.

THE DAMAGED PYLONS--

SLINGSHOT IT.

I NEVER WANTED ANYONE TO GET HURT BECAUSE OF MY ACTIONS.

SOME OF THOSE SECRET EMPIRE AGENTS CLEARED OUT.

THEY WERE INJURED, THOUGH. WOULDN'T HAVE GONE FAR.

KEEP AN EYE OUT.

KASHMIR VENNEMA.

ANOTHER ONE.

WHAT THE HELL IS GOING ON HERE?

STEVE...

YOU MIGHT WANT TO TAKE A LOOK AT THIS.

IS THAT...?

LOGAN.

WOLVERINE.

TONY STARK.

BRUCE BANNER.

SIMON WILLIAMS.

CAROL DANVERS.

SOME OTHERS I DON'T RECOGNIZE.

THIS *WASN'T* AN ARMS DEAL.

THEY WEREN'T SELLING WEAPONS.

THEY WERE SELLING *SLAVES.*

NATASHA. *WAIT.*

WE CAN'T JUST LET THEM OUT.

WHAT?

THIS WON'T STAND.

WE DON'T KNOW WHAT... *WHO*...WE'RE DEALING WITH.

FOR ALL WE KNOW, THEY COULD TRY TO KILL US.

I UNDERSTAND--

YOU *DON'T.*

DON'T PRETEND THAT YOU DO.

YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT IT'S LIKE...

...HAVING EVERYTHING THAT MAKES YOU WHO YOU ARE *STRIP-MINED* SO YOU CAN BE...

...A GOOD LITTLE *SLAVE.*

WE'LL DO RIGHT BY THESE PEOPLE, NATASHA. *SOMEHOW.*

WE JUST NEED TO BE SMART ABOUT IT. WE CAN'T MAKE AN EMOTIONAL--

VRRRRRRRRHHHHHHHHHHH

THAT...

...DOESN'T SOUND GOOD.

NATASHA ARE YOU OKAY?

WHAT WAS THAT?

I'M HERE.

I FEEL LIKE I'VE BEEN TURNED INSIDE OUT AND RUN THROUGH A BLENDER...BUT I'M HERE.

FRANCAVILLA 12

THE REAL QUESTION IS...

DON'T SAY IT.

ALL RIGHT.

THEN HOW DID WE GET HERE?

AN EQUIPMENT MALFUNCTION, MAYBE?

PLEASE.

ISN'T IT OBVIOUS?

WE'VE BEEN DUMPED.

WHAT DO YOU KNOW?

IF YOU'VE GOT SOMETHING TO SHARE, NOW'S NOT THE TIME TO BE *CRYPTIC* ABOUT IT.

OR MAYBE YOU'RE JUST NOT QUITE AS *SHARP* AS THE STEVE ROGERS I REMEMBER.

*MY* CAPTAIN AMERICA WOULDN'T HAVE GONE UP AGAINST THESE PEOPLE WITHOUT KNOWING *EXACTLY* WHO HE WAS DEALING WITH.

I KNOW WHO I'M DEALING WITH.

KASHMIR VENNEMA.

I SUPPOSE THAT SUMS IT UP... BUT IN MANY WAYS IT DOESN'T EVEN BEGIN TO SCRATCH THE SURFACE.

WE'RE NOT TALKING ABOUT ONE WOMAN. NOT EXACTLY.

WE'RE TALKING ABOUT AN *EMPIRE*.

VENNEMA MULTIVERSAL.

"I'M NOT SURE WHICH ONE OF THEM STARTED IT.

"WHOEVER IT WAS, SHE WAS SHREWD AND AMBITIOUS AND CRUEL AND PARANOID ENOUGH THAT SHE KNEW SHE COULD ONLY EVER TRUST ONE PERSON.

"HERSELF.

"I'VE KILLED DOZENS OF THEM IN HOPES OF LOPPING OFF THE HEAD OF THE SNAKE.

"THEY'VE GOT THEIR FINGERS IN EVERYTHING.

TARGET!

"WEAPONS. FRINGE TECHNOLOGY. ESPIONAGE. ASSASSINATION. ALTERNATIVE ENERGY.

"THEIR CUSTOMERS INCLUDE SUPER VILLAINS AND TYRANTS, GREEDY CORPORATIONS AND WEALTHY COLLECTORS.

"BUT IT ALL BOILS DOWN TO VENNEMA MULTIVERSAL SELLING THE RESOURCES OF ONE ALTERNATE EARTH TO ANOTHER."

CONSIDER IT THEIR "GRASS IS ALWAYS GREENER ON THE OTHER SIDE" INITIATIVE.

THOSE PEOPLE...THEY'RE NOTHING MORE THAN *COMMODITIES*. THEY'RE *PRODUCTS*.

AND WHEN THE NEGOTIATIONS WENT SOUTH, VENNEMA MULTIVERSAL WANTED TO MAKE SURE THEIR GOODS DIDN'T FALL INTO THE "*WRONG HANDS*."

WE JUST GOT SWEPT UP WITH THE REST OF THE OVERHEAD.

YOU'VE BEEN KILLING THEM.

WHY?

LET'S JUST SAY MY EMPLOYER IS A *DISGRUNTLED* CUSTOMER.

ALL YOU REALLY NEED TO KNOW IS THAT I'VE GOT A MEANS TO GET US ALL HOME.

IF YOU LET ME GO.

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

I WOULDN'T TRUST HER.

I NEED TO CLEAR MY HEAD.

GONNA DO A LITTLE *RECON*.

WHY IS IT THAT ALL THE MEN IN MY LIFE CLEAR THEIR HEADS BY DOING *RECONNAISSANCE*?

JUST LUCKY, I GUESS.

I WOULDN'T, IF I WERE YOU.

YOU COME AT ME WITH THAT SHIV, YOU'RE GOING TO WISH THIS WAS AN ALTERNATE REALITY WHERE THE EARTH WAS RULED BY *PROCTOLOGISTS.*

CLANK!

I'M SURE YOU'RE BOTH CONFUSED. I KNOW YOU'RE HURT.

IF YOU GIVE YOURSELVES UP WITHOUT A FIGHT, YOU'LL BE TREATED FAIRLY--

VVV-THUNK VVV-THUNK VVV-THUNK

UNNH--!

ZZRRRRRAAAAKK!

ZZRRRRRAAAAKK!

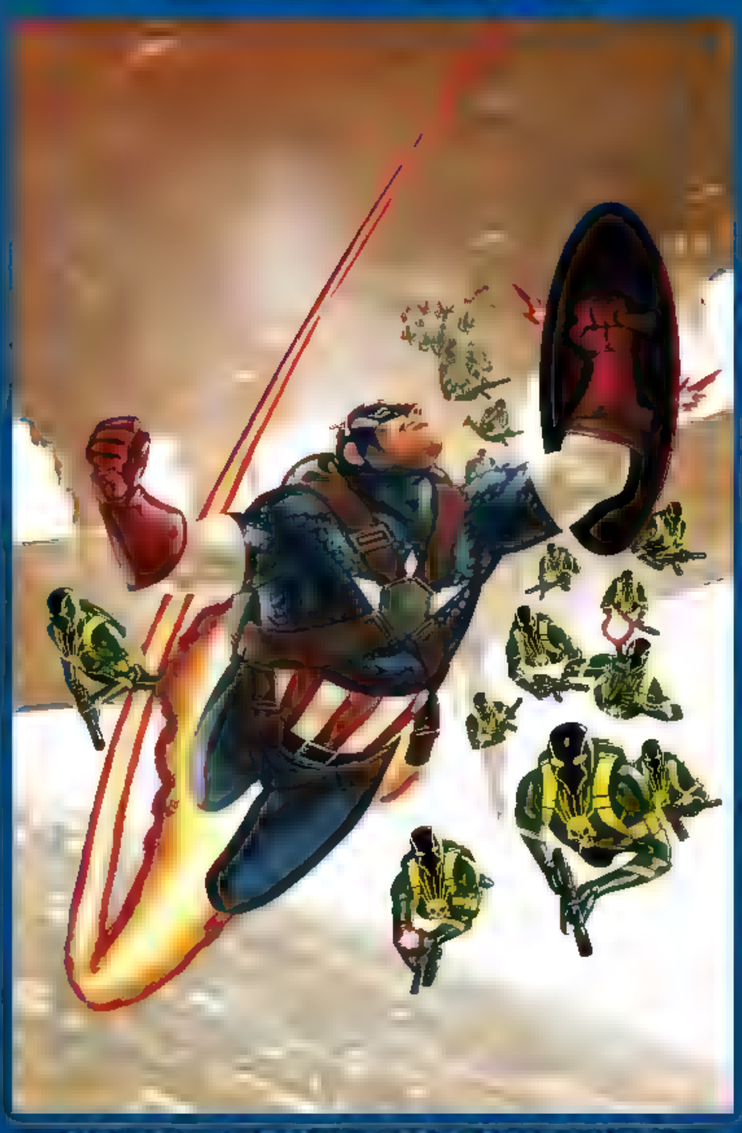
EULLEN
BUNN'12
&
FRAN
CAVIL
LAE.12
To Be
Continued...

# NEXT ISSUE: TRIPOD TERROR!


WINTER SOLDIER #11

THE HUNT IS ON!
ON SALE NOW!

CAPTAIN AMERICA #18



HYDRA TAKES TO THE SKIES
ON SALE

# CAPTAIN AMERICA & BLACK WIDOW

MARVEL

638

FRANCAVILLA 11 F.12

BUNN

FRANCAVILLA

©2012 Marvel Characters, Inc. All rights reserved.

WWW.MARVEL.COM

# CAPTAIN AMERICA

STEVE ROGERS
PEAK STRENGTH, REFLEXES AND ENDURANCE.
TACTICAL GENIUS. THE SUPER-SOLDIER OF WORLD WAR II.
LEADER OF THE AVENGERS.

# BLACK WIDOW

NATASHA ROMANOFF.
FORMER RUSSIAN SUPER-SPY. CURRENT S.H.I.E.L.D. AGENT. AVENGER.
MASTER OF STEALTH, COMBAT AND STRATEGY.

AFTER DISRUPTING A SUPERHUMAN ARMS DEAL, CAPTAIN AMERICA AND BLACK WIDOW ARE TRANSPORTED INTO A WASTELAND DIMENSION BY THEIR TARGET, BLACK MARKET KINGPIN KASHMIR VENNEMA. ACCOMPANIED BY A SINISTER BLACK WIDOW FROM ANOTHER WORLD, CAP AND NATASHA LEARNED THE ENTREPRENEURIAL KASHMIR IS JUST ONE OF MANY VERSIONS OF KASH FROM THROUGHOUT THE MULTIVERSE, WITH THE ORIGINAL AS THE ELUSIVE HEAD OF VENNEMA MULTIVERSAL, AN ORGANIZATION SPECIALIZING IN BLACK MARKET DEALS. DISORIENTED BY THEIR DIMENSIONAL JUMP, CAP AND WIDOW WERE ATTACKED BY GIANT WAR MACHINES OF HYDRA!


CULLEN BUNN WRITER
FRANCESCO FRANCAVILLA ARTIST & COVER
VC'S CORY PETIT LETTERER & PRODUCTION
JAKE THOMAS ASSISTANT EDITOR
LAUREN SANKOVITCH EDITOR
AXEL ALONSO EDITOR IN CHIEF
JOE QUESADA CHIEF CREATIVE OFFICER
DAN BUCKLEY PUBLISHER
ALAN FINE EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

CAPTAIN AMERICA CREATED BY JOE SIMON & JACK KIRBY



TO FIND MARVEL COMICS AT A LOCAL COMIC AND HOBBY SHOP, GO TO WWW.COMICSHOPLOCATOR.COM OR CALL 1-888-COMICBOOK.

© 2012 Marvel Characters, Inc. All rights reserved. All characters featured in this issue and the distinctive names and likenesses thereof, and all related indicia are trademarks of Marvel Characters, Inc. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons, and/or institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental.

Vennema Multiversal

HAVE YOU FOUND THEM YET?

I'M SORRY, MA'AM, BUT NO.

WE SHUNTED THEM INTO ONE OF THE *WASTELANDS.*

IT WAS A RANDOM DUMP. IT COULD TAKE *HOURS* TO PINPOINT A LOCATION.

THE OTHER WOMEN IN THE ROOM ARE ALL DIFFERENT VERSIONS OF MYSELF... PULLED FROM ACROSS THE *MULTIVERSE.*

THEY ARE, FOR ALL INTENTS AND PURPOSES, *ME.*

I'VE DONE MY DUE DILIGENCE, THOUGH, RESEARCHED SUBTLE LITTLE DIFFERENCES. VARIATIONS IN UPBRINGINGS, LIFE EXPERIENCES, AND SOCIAL PATTERNS.

I KNOW, FOR INSTANCE, THAT I WAS BORN AT LEAST *ONE WEEK* EARLIER THAN EVERYONE ELSE IN THE ROOM.

WHO WOULD THINK ONE WEEK WOULD MAKE SUCH A DIFFERENCE?

REPURPOSE RESOURCES IF YOU NEED TO, BUT FIND THEM.

*NOW.*

WE DIDN'T THINK IT WOULD BE A PRIORITY TO--

WELL, I'M *MAKING* IT A PRIORITY. FIND THEM AND *ELIMINATE* THEM.

I'LL EXPECT AN UPDATE.

SHORTLY.

GOD...WE CAN REALLY BE A *BITCH* SOMETIMES.

STOP YOUR COMPLAINING...

"...AND FIND CAPTAIN AMERICA."

ZRRRRAAAAKK!

ZRAK-

ZZRRAK!

ZRRRAAAKK

HNNG!

ZRRAKK

HKKK!

DID WE GET 'IM?

ANY SIGN OF 'EM?

WHOEVER HE WAS, HE SURE WASN'T A COLD-BLOOD.

HOW DO YOU KNOW?

HE LOOKED LIKE ONE TO ME. HAD SCALES AND EVERYTHING.

THOSE WEREN'T SCALES. HE WAS WEARING ARMOR OF SOME KIND.

YOU KNOW WHO HE LOOKED LIKE, DON'T YOU?

RED, WHITE, AND BLUE ARMOR.

VVV-THUNK VVV-THUNK

DON'T YOU GET STARTED WITH YOUR SUPER-SOLDIER SIGHTINGS AGAIN.

AGENT AMERICA IS *DEAD!* HE HAS BEEN SINCE RIGHT AFTER THE WAR.

AND IF HE WASN'T ALREADY SIX FEET UNDER, HE SURE WOULD BE--

NOOAAW!

CRACK!

THERE HE IS! THERE HE IS!

HE'S STILL ALIVE!

HE'S RABBITING!

GET HIM! GET HIM!

THE CAPTAIN'S BEEN GONE A WHILE. MAYBE HE GOT HIMSELF KILLED.

MAYBE YOU SHOULD KEEP *QUIET.*

AND WHILE YOU'RE AT IT, MAYBE YOU COULD TONE DOWN THAT RUSSIAN ACCENT A BIT.

YOU SOUND LIKE A CARTOON CHARACTER...

...AND I *DON'T* SOUND LIKE A CARTOON CHARACTER.

THE ACCENT'S *REAL.*

BUT YOU KNEW THAT.

MAYBE ALL THE YEARS OF FOLLOWING CAPTAIN AMERICA AND HIS AVENGERS AROUND LIKE A PUPPY HAS TAKEN THE EDGE OFF YOUR OWN INFLECTIONS...

...BUT YOU HEAR YOURSELF... THE WAY YOU *USED* TO BE... WHEN YOU HEAR ME.

YES.

YOU REMIND ME OF SOMEONE WHO DIDN'T THINK FOR HERSELF.

*A PUPPET.* A MARIONETTE DANCING AT THE PULL OF A STRING.

NONSENSE.

THE COLD WAR IS OVER... FOR BOTH OF US.

ONLY... ONE OF US GREW FAT AND LAZY DURING PEACETIME...

...AND THE OTHER STAYED *SHARP.*

AND YET... YOU'RE THE PRISONER.

I GUESS BEING "SHARP" DOESN'T COUNT FOR MUCH WHERE YOU'RE FROM.

I'LL ADMIT, I WASN'T AS PREPARED...OR AS CAUTIOUS...AS I SHOULD HAVE BEEN.

SEEING CAPTAIN AMERICA GOT MY BLOOD PUMPING.

AND SEEING *YOU* WAS A COMPLETE SURPRISE.

WHAT WERE YOU DOING THERE, ANYWAY?

MY MOTIVATIONS WERE SIMILAR TO YOURS, I SUPPOSE.

FATE CERTAINLY LIKES TO PLAY LITTLE GAMES, DOESN'T SHE?

AN INFLUX OF ULTRA-HIGH-TECH WEAPONS AND CONTRABAND GOT THE ATTENTION OF S.H.I.E.L.D.

MY INVESTIGATION UNCOVERED A NAME. A SERIES OF NAMES, REALLY.

KASHMIR VENNEMA.

WHOEVER SHE WAS...WHOEVER THEY ARE...THEY HAD TARGETED MY WORLD AS PRIME RETAIL SPACE.

IF THIS IS THE KIND OF THING THEY SELL...IF THIS IS THE KIND OF THING THAT HAPPENS IN THE PLACES THEY DO BUSINESS...

VVV-THUNK VVV-THUNK VVV-THUNK VVV-THUNK VVV-THUNK

...SHUTTING THEM DOWN SEEMS LIKE A GOOD IDEA.

WHAT'S THAT SOUND?

VVV-THUNK VVV-THUNK VVV-THUNK VVV-THUNK VVV-THUNK

TAKE COVER!

VVVV-THUNK VVVV-THUNK VVVV-THUNK VVVV-THUNK VVVV-THUNK

YOU MAKE *FRIENDS* EVERYWHERE YOU GO, DON'T YOU?

ZZRRAKK
PSSSSHH

K-TANK!

HOLD ON TIGHT.

COME ON...COME ON...

DAMN!

THAT WINDSHIELD'S BULLETPROOF, NATASHA!

YOU'LL NEVER GET IN THAT WAY!

EVEN THE STRONGEST GLASS WILL BREAK WITH THE PROPER APPLICATION OF FORCE.

YOU HAVE A BETTER SUGGESTION?

BLAM! BLAM! BLAM!

K-THANK! K-RRNCK!

WHU--

KRRRNNNCHK

THESE MACHINES MIGHT BE PAINTED HYDRA GREEN...

...BUT YOU BOYS DON'T LOOK LIKE BARON STRUCKER'S PRIDE AND JOY TO ME!

TOLD YOU!

OKAY! OKAY! YOU WERE RIGHT!

IT *IS* AGENT AMERICA!

NOW GET UP THERE AND KILL HIM!

BETTER THAN YOU HAVE TRIED.

THEY'RE ALL YOURS, WIDOW!

I'LL GO AFTER ONE OF THE OTHER TRIPODS!

TAKE THIS.

IT'S JUST A MINOR CHARGE.

BUT IT'LL MAKE A DECENT DISTRACTION.

HUP!

UNNNF!

KEEP BACK OR I'LL--

SAVE IT.

YOUR FRIENDS SAW ME BREACH THE COCKPIT.

EVEN IF I DON'T SHOOT YOU--AND THAT'S A BIG "IF"--THERE'S EVERY POSSIBILITY THEY'LL OPEN FIRE ON THIS VEHICLE.

EDGAR! EDGAR!

YOU ALL RIGHT IN THERE?

THAT IS, UNLESS YOU OPEN FIRE ON THEM FIRST.

KRAAK

GOOD BOY.

WHAT THE HELL!

EDGAR'S BEEN COMPROMISED! TAKE HIM DOWN!

ZRRAAKKOOOMM

NATASHA!

I TOLD YOU THE GLASS WOULD BREAK!

KRAAASSH

LET'S GO, STEVE.

TWO DOWN. FINISH THE LAST ONE OFF BEFORE IT ROASTS US.

C4

WHAAA-Shaaaaa

THAT WAS A MINOR CHARGE?

IT GOT THE JOB DONE, DIDN'T IT?

THEY'LL BE DIGGING THEMSELVES OUT OF THAT WRECKAGE FOR HOURS.

BESIDES... THEY LOOKED DISTRACTED TO ME.

WE'VE FOUND THEM!

EVEN WITHOUT A CLEAN PULSE-NET, I MANAGED TO TRACE THE ENERGY SIGNATURES AND FAKE A TRAJECTORY MAP.

*THIS* IS WHERE YOU SENT THEM.

YOU'VE GOT TO BE KIDDING.

I ALWAYS VOLUNTEERED TO BE HALL MONITOR IN MIDDLE SCHOOL.

YOU COULDN'T HANDPICK A BETTER PLACE TO SEND YOUR ENEMIES.

THE INDIGENOUS POPULATION IS LETHAL... AND EASILY AGITATED.

I SUPPOSE WE SHOULD SEND THE *HUNT SQUAD* AFTER THEM REGARDLESS.

IT'S LIKELY THE TEAM IS OVERKILL, BUT THEY CAN DO RECONNAISSANCE IF NOTHING ELSE.

IF CAPTAIN AMERICA AND HIS COMPANIONS ARE ALREADY DEAD...

Ulik.

Porcupine.

Eel.

Madcap.

Spider-Woman.

"...I WANT EYES ON THE CORPSES."

NOT PLANNING ON FIXING THAT DEVICE AND LEAVING WITHOUT US, ARE YOU?

ACTUALLY, THAT WAS *EXACTLY* WHAT I WAS PLANNING.

BUT...I'M SURE WE COULD NEGOTIATE SOMETHING *MUTUALLY* BENEFICIAL.

I CAN GET YOU *HOME*...

...BUT THOSE *STRAYS* FOLLOWING YOU STAY HERE.

STRAYS?

HSSSSSSSSSS

HSSS

# NEXT ISSUE - RAGING REPTILES!

## CAPTAIN AMERICA #19

IT'S ALL CAPPED OFF!
ON SALE NOW!

## WINTER SOLDIER #12

TAKE COVER!

MARVEL

639

# CAPTAIN AMERICA & BLACK WIDOW

FRAN CAVIL MAY 12

BUNN

FRANCAVILLA

WWW.MARVEL.COM

©2012 Marvel Characters, Inc. All rights reserved.

# CAPTAIN AMERICA

STEVE ROGERS
PEAK STRENGTH, REFLEXES AND ENDURANCE.
TACTICAL GENIUS. THE SUPER-SOLDIER OF WORLD WAR II.
LEADER OF THE AVENGERS.

# BLACK WIDOW

NATASHA ROMANOFF
FORMER RUSSIAN SUPER-SPY. CURRENT S.H.I.E.L.D. AGENT. AVENGER.
MASTER OF STEALTH, COMBAT AND STRATEGY.

AFTER DISRUPTING A SUPERHUMAN ARMS DEAL, CAPTAIN AMERICA, BLACK WIDOW AND A SINISTER WIDOW FROM AN ALTERNATE REALITY WERE TRANSPORTED INTO A WASTELAND DIMENSION BY THEIR TARGET, BLACK MARKET KINGPIN KASHMIR VENNEMA. CAP AND NATASHA LEARNED THE ENTREPRENEURIAL KASHMIR IS JUST ONE OF MANY VERSIONS OF KASH FROM THROUGHOUT THE MULTIVERSE, WITH THE ORIGINAL AS THE ELUSIVE HEAD OF VENNEMA MULTIVERSAL, AN ORGANIZATION SPECIALIZING IN BLACK MARKET DEALS. AS KASH ASSEMBLED A TEAM OF KILLERS TO HUNT DOWN CAP AND THE WIDOWS, THE VILLAINOUS NATASHA ATTEMPTED TO DITCH HER FELLOW TRAVELERS. CAP AND BLACK WIDOW FOUND HER BEFORE SHE COULD MAKE THE JUMP, BUT THEY WEREN'T THE ONLY ONES...A MONSTROUS-LOOKING BAND OF LOCALS HAVE ARRIVED, LED BY THEIR DIMENSION'S THE LIZARD!


CULLEN BUNN WRITER
FRANCESCO FRANCAVILLA ARTIST & COVER
VC'S JOE CARAMAGNA LETTERER & PRODUCTION
JAKE THOMAS ASSISTANT EDITOR
LAUREN SANKOVITCH EDITOR
AXEL ALONSO EDITOR IN CHIEF
JOE QUESADA CHIEF CREATIVE OFFICER
DAN BUCKLEY PUBLISHER
ALAN FINE EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

CAPTAIN AMERICA CREATED BY JOE SIMON & JACK KIRBY

TO FIND MARVEL COMICS AT A LOCAL COMIC AND HOBBY SHOP, GO TO WWW.COMICSHOPLOCATOR.COM OR CALL 1-888-COMICBOOK.



© 2012 Marvel Characters, Inc. All rights reserved. All characters featured in this issue and the distinctive names and likenesses thereof, and all related indicia are trademarks of Marvel Characters, Inc. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons, and/or institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental.

HSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSS

RRRR!

PUSH THEM BACK! WE'VE GOTTA GET CLEAR BEFORE THEY *OVERRUN* US!

*CAPTAIN!*

THE... OTHER ME... SHE'S SLIPPING AWAY!

SHE'S THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN GET US BACK TO OUR WORLD!

AGGH!

CALM DOWN!

ALL OF YOU!

DESPITE APPEARANCES, I HAVE NO WISH TO HURT YOU.

MY PEOPLE ARE PEACEFUL.

THIS IS AN ACT OF SELF-PRESERVATION.

YOU INVADED OUR HOME.

WE WERE JUST LOOKING FOR SHELTER...

I KNOW YOU AS WELL...BUT YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO BE DEAD.

AGENT AMERICA.

...NOT FROM AROUND HERE.

BUT WE MEAN YOU NO HARM.

WE CAME FROM ANOTHER... UH...REALITY. WE'RE TRYING TO FIND OUR WAY HOME.

I BELIEVE YOU.

SAME AS YOU, I SUSPECT.

YOU'RE CURT CONNORS, RIGHT? I KNOW YOU.

CAPTAIN AMERICA.

I'M...

AGENT AMERICA WAS A GOOD MAN... AN ALLY...

...A FRIEND.

WAIT. DON'T LET HER GO.

SHE'S CERTAINLY NOT A FRIEND.

IT MIGHT BE BEST IF YOU JUST HELD ONTO HER A WHILE LONGER.

WHAT HAPPENED HERE?

HOW DID THESE PEOPLE--

HE DID IT.

HE CHANGED THEM INTO THESE THINGS.

YES.

"THIS WORLD CRUMBLED UNDER THE BURDEN OF CONFLICT.

"IT IS DOUBTFUL THAT ANY SURVIVOR KNOWS WHY HYDRA AND THE DEFIANCE LEAGUE WENT TO WAR...

"...NOT THAT IT MATTERS IN LIGHT OF THE RUIN THEY BROUGHT.

"BOTH SIDES WERE OUTFITTED WITH WEAPONS OF VAST DESTRUCTIVE POWER...

"SOMEONE SOLD THEM WEAPONS FROM OTHER WORLDS.

"OUR HEROES TRIED TO STOP THE FIGHTING, BUT THERE WAS LITTLE THEY COULD DO.

"ONE BY ONE THEY FELL.

"AND THERE ARE RUMORS THAT THEIR CORPSES WERE *HARVESTED* FROM THE BATTLEFIELD BY SCAVENGERS IN THE NIGHT.

"THOSE WHO SURVIVED BECAME MADMEN, BUTCHERS, OR VICTIMS.

"HUNGRY, COLD, AFRAID...THE VICTIMS... *SUFFERED.*

"THEY WOULDN'T HAVE ENDURED THE HARDSHIPS OF THIS NEW WORLD FOR LONG.

"SO I IMPROVED THEM...GAVE THEM THE *STRENGTH* TO SURVIVE...THE *RUTHLESSNESS* TO THRIVE."

BUT THE TRUTH HAS NOT ESCAPED ME.

I'VE ONLY PROLONGED THE INEVITABLE.

NO ONE CAN SURVIVE HERE.

THIS WORLD IS A GRAVE.

WE'RE NOT FROM THIS WORLD. WE'RE NOT FROM THIS REALITY.

WITH THE PROPER TOOLS...

...I CAN REPAIR THE DEVICE.

WHY? WHY SHOULD I HELP YOU?

I'VE SEEN... OTHERS... SUFFERING IN HELLHOLES NOT TOO DIFFERENT FROM THIS.

I WON'T SIT IDLY BY AND LET IT HAPPEN TO *ANYONE* ELSE.

AND THE DEVICE THAT WOULD ALLOW US TO MOVE FROM ONE WORLD TO THE NEXT IS DAMAGED.

YOU HAVE A LAB HERE... YOU HAVE RESOURCES AND EQUIPMENT...

HELP US... GET US HOME... AND I'LL DO WHATEVER I CAN.

I *WON'T* LET YOUR PEOPLE DIE HERE.

YOU HAVE MY *WORD.*

Later.

I WAS *WRONG* ABOUT YOU, ROGERS.

I THOUGHT YOU WERE AN EXACT DUPLICATE OF MY CAPTAIN AMERICA.

BUT YOU HAD ME FOOLED.

THESE PEOPLE, THOUGH...THESE LIZARDS...

*MY* CAPTAIN AMERICA WOULD HAVE NEVER MADE THEM A PROMISE HE COULDN'T KEEP.

DON'T WORRY ABOUT THE PROMISES WE'VE MADE.

YOU WANT TO TALK? TELL US ABOUT *VENNEMA MULTIVERSAL.*

TELL US WHO'S PAYING YOU TO *DESTROY* THEM.

AFTER ALL WE'VE BEEN THROUGH, YOU'RE *STILL* INTERESTED IN MY EMPLOYER?

WE'RE STRANDED IN ANOTHER DIMENSION.

WE HAVE MORE IMPORTANT THINGS TO WORRY ABOUT...

...BUT I'M NOTHING IF NOT ACCOMMODATING.

"VENNEMA MULTIVERSAL HAS NO DESIGNS ON CONQUEST. THEY DON'T WANT TO MAKE THEMSELVES INTO GODS.

"THEY SIMPLY SEE *INFINITE PROFIT* IN *INFINITE WORLDS.*

"SOMEONE WHO IS A *CUSTOMER* IN ONE REALITY, MIGHT BE A *COMPETITOR*...OR A *TARGET*...IN ANOTHER.

"THEIR LIES...THEIR DIRTY DEALS...THEIR HOSTILE TAKEOVERS...SPAN FROM ONE WORLD TO THE NEXT.

"THEY DOUBLE-CROSSED SOME OF THE MOST POWERFUL PEOPLE IN ALL OF EXISTENCE.

"FOR THEM... *DIVERSIFICATION* HAS MEANT MAKING A LOT OF ENEMIES."

I REPRESENT *INTERESTS* WHO WOULD LIKE TO SEE KASHMIR VENNEMA *PAY* FOR HER CRIMES ON A *MULTIVERSAL* SCALE.

AND IT LOOKS LIKE I CAN GET BACK TO WORK SOON.

I'M ALL DONE HERE.

IT WORKS?

IT'S *FUNCTIONAL*, YES, BUT THERE ARE A FEW... *BUGS.*

BUT IT WILL GET YOU HOME?

LONG ENOUGH.

HAVE YOU BEEN LURKING IN THE SHADOWS THE WHOLE TIME?

EAVESDROPPING?

WHAT ABOUT THESE "BUGS"?

I'LL ADMIT... I CONSIDERED ACTIVATING THE DEVICE STRAIGHT AWAY... GETTING THE HELL OUT OF HERE WHILE STRANDING YOU AT THE SAME TIME... BUT...

...IT MIGHT BE BENEFICIAL HAVING THE TWO OF YOU ALONG FOR THE RIDE.

THEY SAY THERE'S SAFETY IN--

RRUMMMBBBLE

HSSSSSSSKK!

RRUMMMBBBLE

SSHRRAKK

AAKOW!

RRRAAAAHHH

SHAKKOW!

TEAR DOWN THEIR HIDEY-HOLES!

AND WATCH THEM SCATTER!

RAHHA HAHAHA!

SHAKKA-WHAAM!

KRAKA-BOOM

SEE HOW THEY RISE TO THE SURFACE?

LIKE WORMS IN THE STORM!

NOW... FINISH THEM!

SSSZZZ

SHRAK!

NO!

THIS IS NOT YOUR FIGHT!

KEEP YOUR PROMISE!

SAVE MY PEOPLE!

I'LL COME BACK FOR THEM.

COUNT ON IT!

HSSSSHK!

HSSSK!

YAA--

GET THIS THING OFF ME!

NO YOU DON'T!

NOT WITHOUT US.

SAFETY. NUMBERS.

REMEMBER?

THEN ROGERS BETTER HURRY UP, BECAUSE I'M NOT WAITING FOR HIM!

ON MY WAY!

GGGKK

HRRRK!

ZZSSLZZKZARK!

REAAAAGGGLHHK!

MAKE SURE WE KNOW HOW TO RETURN WHEN WE NEED TO.

IF THESE MANIACS ARE AFTER US, WE CAN DRAW THEM AWAY BEFORE THEY KILL EVERYONE.

BUT I'M KEEPING MY WORD. WE'RE COMING BACK!

STAY CLOSE. YOU GET CAUGHT IN THE ENERGY FIELD, YOUR ATOMS WILL BE SCATTERED ACROSS THE COSMOS!

THE DEVICE ALLOWS TRAVEL, BUT CONTROL WILL BE *LIMITED.*

WHAT DO YOU MEAN, "LIMITED"?

RANDOM...

"...BUT IT'S OUR *ONLY* OPTION.

"THERE'S AN INFINITE NUMBER OF WORLDS...ONE LAYERED RIGHT ON TOP OF ANOTHER...

"EVEN THE MOST PEACEFUL WORLD MIGHT SEEM STRANGE...HOSTILE TO YOU.

"REMEMBER... WE'RE THE *ANOMALIES*... THE *FOREIGN BODIES*...

"WE DON'T *BELONG*.

"AND REALITY'S IMMUNE SYSTEM WILL TRY TO *PURGE* US.

"THE GOOD NEWS IS... THERE ARE ONLY A COUPLE HUNDRED ALTERNATE REALITIES--INCLUDING YOUR OWN--PROGRAMMED INTO THE DEVICE.

"THE FIRST BIT OF *BAD* NEWS IS THAT IT CAN TAKE UP TO TEN MINUTES BETWEEN JUMPS.

REMEMBER

ATED

TERMINATED

NATED

"STAY ALERT. BE READY FOR *ANYTHING*.

"OR AT LEAST TWO HUNDRED *VARIETIES* OF ANYTHING.

"AND THE LAST BIT OF BAD NEWS...

"IF WE GET SEPARATED, I *WILL* LEAVE YOU BEHIND IF IT SUITS MY PURPOSES.

"I DON'T WANT TO BE HERE WHEN--"

FRAN GAVIL 4.12

AAH!

ZZAAAK!

NOW...

...WHERE WERE WE?

OH, YES.

YOU WERE *BOASTING* ABOUT HOW DIFFICULT THIS WOULD BE FOR US.

CHUK! CH-CHUK! CHUK!

HNNH?

SHWAM!

WHHUFF?

SSSZZZZZSZZZSSSK!

RRRR

ALL RIGHT.

IS THIS THE CAVALRY OR SOMETHING EQUALLY BAD?

MY GUESS?

BOTH.

I HAD A FAMILY ONCE...A HUSBAND... A DAUGHTER.

AND THEY WERE TAKEN FROM ME BY WOMEN WHO SHARE *MY* FACE... *MY* NAME...

KASHMIR VENNEMA?

PLEASE.

CALL ME KASH.

CULLEN BUNN '12 & GRAN GAVIL LAFEIZ

I'D SAY IT'S TIME FOR A LITTLE *PAYBACK.*

HI, BOSS.

**To Be Concluded...**

# CAPTAIN AMERICA

# BLACK WIDOW!

FRAN GAVIL 14F.12

# NEXT: TAKING IT TO THE HOUSE!

# CAPTAIN AMERICA®

# BLACK WIDOW®

© 2012 Marvel Characters, Inc. All rights reserved.

WWW.MARVEL.COM

MARVEL

640

BUNN

FRANCAVILLA

# CAPTAIN AMERICA

STEVE ROGERS
PEAK STRENGTH, REFLEXES AND ENDURANCE.
TACTICAL GENIUS. THE SUPER-SOLDIER OF WORLD WAR II.
LEADER OF THE AVENGERS.

# BLACK WIDOW

NATASHA ROMANOFF.
FORMER RUSSIAN SUPER-SPY. CURRENT S.H.I.E.L.D. AGENT. AVENGER.
MASTER OF STEALTH, COMBAT AND STRATEGY.

AFTER DISRUPTING A MULTIVERSAL ARMS DEAL, CAPTAIN AMERICA, BLACK WIDOW AND A SINISTER WIDOW OF ANOTHER REALITY WERE TRANSPORTED TO AN ALTERNATE DIMENSION BY THEIR TARGET, BLACK MARKET KINGPIN KASHMIR VENNEMA! THE DEALINGS OF KASH AND VENNEMA MULTIVERSAL CORPORATION HAVE MADE A WASTELAND OF THIS NEW DIMENSION, ITS FEW DESPERATE SURVIVORS LED BY THEIR REALITY'S LIZARD: DR. CURT CONNORS.

AFTER PROMISING THE LIZARD HE WOULD RETURN TO HELP HIS PEOPLE, CAP AND THE WIDOWS JUMPED THROUGH REALITIES TO MAKE IT BACK HOME...WITH A VENNEMA MULTIVERSAL KILL SQUAD HOT ON THEIR TRAIL. JUST WHEN IT SEEMED LIKE THEY HAD BEEN CORNERED, STEVE AND NATASHA WERE RESCUED BY NONE OTHER THAN THE VILLAINOUS WIDOW'S EMPLOYER, WHO HIRED HER TO HUNT DOWN THE HEAD OF VENNEMA MULTIVERSAL...ANOTHER KASHMIR VENNEMA!


CULLEN BUNN WRITER
FRANCESCO FRANCAVILLA ARTIST & COVER
VC'S JOE CARAMAGNA LETTERER & PRODUCTION
JAKE THOMAS ASSISTANT EDITOR
LAUREN SANKOVITCH EDITOR
AXEL ALONSO EDITOR IN CHIEF
JOE QUESADA CHIEF CREATIVE OFFICER
DAN BUCKLEY PUBLISHER
ALAN FINE EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

CAPTAIN AMERICA CREATED BY JOE SIMON & JACK KIRBY



TO FIND MARVEL COMICS AT A LOCAL COMIC AND HOBBY SHOP, GO TO WWW.COMICSHOPLOCATOR.COM OR CALL 1-888-COMICBOOK.

© 2012 Marvel Characters, Inc. All rights reserved. All characters featured in this issue and the distinctive names and likenesses thereof, and all related indicia are trademarks of Marvel Characters, Inc. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons, and or institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental.

Vennema Multiversal

I'D LIKE TO REMIND EVERYONE THAT WE SHARE A NAME-- KASHMIR VENNEMA.

AND THAT NAME MEANS WE STAY *POISED AND CALM* DURING TIMES OF CRISIS.

I'M SORRY, BUT HOW ARE WE SUPPOSED TO STAY CALM?

ONE OF OUR ELITE KILL SQUADS HAS BEEN ELIMINATED.

EXACTLY!

THERE'S EVERY POSSIBILITY THAT THESE "HEROES" ARE COMING AFTER *US* NEXT.

AND WE'RE *PREPARED* FOR SUCH A POSSIBILITY.

Inner Council Boardroom

THIS WOULDN'T BE THE FIRST TIME OUR ORGANIZATION CAME UNDER SUCH... *SCRUTINY.*

THEY'RE NOT WORRIED. THAT'S NOT WHAT THIS IS ABOUT.

THEY'RE TRYING TO *UNDERMINE* ME...TRYING TO MAKE ME LOOK LIKE I'VE BEEN CAUGHT WITH MY PANTS DOWN.

THEY'RE *POSITIONING* THEMSELVES TO TAKE MY PLACE.

I, FOR ONE, AM CONCERNED WE HAVEN'T TAKEN THIS SERIOUSLY.

BUT THAT'S NOT THE WORST PART.

WITH THE RESOURCES WE'VE DEDICATED TO THIS...RESOURCES WE'VE LOST...HOW CAN YOU BE SO NONCHALANT?

BECAUSE I'M THE *BOSS.*

THE WORST PART IS... THEY'RE *RIGHT.*

I MAY HAVE DROPPED THE BALL.

20 Klicks from the Attack Zone.

I CAN UNDERSTAND THAT THIS MIGHT BE UNSETTLING.

IMAGINE HOW DISQUIETING IT MUST HAVE BEEN FOR ME.

THESE WOMEN... MY BUSINESS PARTNERS...

ALTERNATE UNIVERSES ASIDE, I WAS ESSENTIALLY DEALING WITH MYSELF.

AND STILL I WAS *BETRAYED.*

SO THIS ATTACK ON THEIR HEADQUARTERS IS...WHAT?

RETRIBUTION?

I'M NOT BIG ON MISSIONS OF *VENGEANCE*, MS. VENNEMA.

I GAVE *VENNEMA MULTIVERSAL* MY ALL.

BUT WHEN I DECIDED THAT I WANTED OUT SO I COULD START A NEW LIFE...

THEY KILLED MY HUSBAND. MY DAUGHTER.

THEY *TOOK* MY LIFE AWAY FROM ME.

SO WHILE THEY ARE INVOLVED IN OPERATIONS THAT PUT COUNTLESS INNOCENTS--COUNTLESS WORLDS--AT RISK...

...AT LEAST PART OF THIS IS MOST DEFINITELY ABOUT *REVENGE*.

KASH FREED ME--FREED ALL THE MEN AND WOMEN YOU SEE HERE--FROM A LIFE OF *BRAIN-WASHED SLAVERY* AT THE HANDS OF VENNEMA MULTIVERSAL.

WHO AM I TO JUDGE IF SHE WANTS TO MIX A LITTLE *PAYBACK* IN WITH THE CAUSE?

DON'T TAKE *TOO LONG* TO DECIDE IF THIS OP CAN BE FOUND ON YOUR *MORAL COMPASS*.

SOON WE'LL BE PAST THE POINT OF SAFE RETURN.

IF YOU WANT TO SIT THIS OUT, I UNDERSTAND.

WE'LL STILL TAKE YOU BACK TO YOUR HOME DIMENSION WHEN THIS IS OVER.

ASSUMING WE SURVIVE.

SHH...

I FEEL FOR YOU, KASH. I REALLY DO.

BUT IF THIS IS JUST ABOUT *KILLING* YOUR ENEMIES, I CAN'T--

PARDON ME, CAPTAIN, BUT I DOUBT YOU'LL EVER KNOW WHAT IT FEELS LIKE TO BETRAY YOURSELF IN SUCH A WAY.

AND KILLING MY...FORMER ASSOCIATES IS NOT THE PLAN.

KILLING THEM WON'T *HURT* THEM.

THIS IS ABOUT SHUTTING THEM DOWN.

BECAUSE THAT--*THAT*--WILL HURT THEM.

ALL RIGHT. WE'RE IN.

BUT NO ONE DIES.

IF YOUR TEAM GOES IN...

"...THEY GO IN LIKE HEROES."

STAY SHARP, SUPER-VEGGIES.

CAN'T IMAGINE ANYONE'S STUPID ENOUGH TO PULL A HEAD-ON ASSAULT-- BUT IF THEY ARE I WANT YOU FREAKS DIRECTLY IN THE LINE OF FIRE.

FRAN GAVIL LAF.12

REEDADRRRGOOOADARRR!

WHAT'S THAT?

SOUNDS LIKE AN ENGINE.

AN ENGINE AND... SCREAMING...

WWRRROOOOOOSSSHH!

YAHAHAHAHAHA!

YAAARGH!

VRR-CHAKKA VRR-CHAKKA VRR-CHAKKA

SHRR-VIP! SHRR-VIP!

THE CYBER-SPIRIT OF HELLFIRE, GASOLINE, RAGE, AND RECKONING CANNOT BE STOPPED BY BULLETS!

SHRR-VIP! SHRR-VIP!

ONLY THE GHOST RIDER CAN SELF-TERMINATE!

AND ONLY IN SERVICE TO THE MECHA-LORDS OF HELL--

REEDADARRRRGOOOOOADADARRRR!

BOOOOOM!

RRRR RRRR...

...RRRR... DIVERRRSIONARRRY TACTICS...

THERRRE WILL BE MORRRE--

ROOOWWWF!

YOU CAN BET YOUR BEST BALL OF YARN THERE WILL BE MORE, BEAST!

NOT JUST MORE-- ALL I'VE GOT!

WE...

...HUNGER!

YOU AND ME BOTH, SLIMEY!

RRRRAAAAGGHH!

ISN'T THIS THE THIRD TIME WE'VE FOUGHT THIS THING?

NO MATTER!

THE EBONY CHAINSAW CALLS OUT FOR HIS STONY FLESH!

HUMAN TORCH!

AGAINST THE UNDEAD FURY OF BLOODSTORM, YOUR ATOMIC FLAMES ARE USELESS!

THE GATE'S BREACHED!

HOW LONG CAN YOUR TEAM HOLD THE LINE HERE, KASH?

NOT LONG!

BUT IF WE CAN REACH THE INNER COUNCIL--

POW!

BRAKKA! BRAKKA!

BRAKKA! BRAKKA!

I'M ON IT, BOSS.

WAIT-- WHERE?

I DON'T KNOW ABOUT YOU...BUT I DON'T TRUST HER...

...ME.

I'LL MAKE SURE SHE STAYS OUT OF TROUBLE.

DON'T GET KILLED WHILE I'M GONE.

NATASHA--

BE CAREFUL.

VROOOT! VROOOT!
VROOOT!

VROOOT!
VROOOT!
VROOOT!

VROOOT!
VROOOT!
VROOOT!

VROOOT!
VROOOT!
VROOOT!

VROOOT!
VROOOT!
VROOOT!

WHAT HAVE YOU DONE?

WHAT DOES IT LOOK LIKE?

I ONLY DID WHAT YOU WOULD HAVE DONE IN THE SAME SITUATION.

I *FINISHED* THIS.

I'VE BEEN TRACKING KASHMIR VENNEMA FOR MONTHS.

THE WAR-MONGERING...THE ASSASSINATIONS...

BUT THEIR DEATHS...

...THAT WASN'T YOUR DECISION TO MAKE.

YOU'RE NOT--

RELAX.

IT'S ALREADY DONE.

YOU DON'T HAVE TO FEEL THE LEAST BIT GUILTY.

YOU CAN GO TO YOUR GRAVE WITH A *CLEAR CONSCIENCE.*

THWAK!

KRAK!

UNGH!

STAND DOWN.

STAND DOWN OR I'LL PUT YOU DOWN.

AND WE'LL SEE HOW CLEAR MY CONSCIENCE IS ONCE I'M DONE WITH YOU.

YOU CAN PRETEND THAT YOU DON'T APPROVE OF MY...OF OUR... TACTICS.

BUT ROGERS ISN'T HERE TO *JUDGE* YOU!

THESE WOMEN WERE MURDERERS AND SLAVE TRADERS.

THEY USED PEOPLE... PEOPLE LIKE ME.

SLLSH

LIKE *YOU!*

I UNDERSTAND YOU'VE BEEN MISTREATED.

ENSLAVED.

AH!

NNNN

OR BY SOME OTHER PUPPET MASTER.

THE SERPENT'S HEAD IS SEVERED.

THEY'RE DEAD.

NO ONE ELSE WILL--

SAVE IT.

BUT YOU'RE STILL LETTING YOURSELF BE USED.

EITHER BY YOUR OWN RAGE.

NNN...

NO...

CHWOP!

I'M TIRED OF HEARING YOU TALK.

YOU MAKE ME FEEL SORRY FOR MYSELF.

"ALL THESE DIFFERENT VERSIONS OF THE SAME PERSON... THEY'RE ROUTED... SCRAMBLING FOR THE EXITS..."

Cold Storage.

IT'LL TAKE FOREVER TO ROUND THEM ALL UP.

...AND THEY'RE LEAVING ALL THESE... HEROES... BEHIND...

...LIKE TOYS LEFT IN A BURNING HOUSE.

CAN THEY BE SAVED? CAN WE SET THEM FREE?

HONESTLY?

NOT MY PROBLEM.

BODYSLIDE.

ZZZZZT!

DAMMIT.

SHE PLAYED ME.

SHOULD'VE SEEN THAT COMING.

EVEN FROM DAY ONE...FROM THE FIRST MOMENT I WAS RECRUITED...I ALWAYS KNEW THIS WOULD END *BADLY*.

BUT I STAY AT MY STATION...EVEN AS MY WHOLE WORLD CRUMBLES.

I MIGHT BE A PESSIMIST, BUT AT LEAST I'M A *LOYAL* PESSIMIST.

STAY BACK!

STAY BACK OR I SWEAR I'LL--

IF WE'RE GOING TO RESORT TO THREATS, LET ME CUT RIGHT TO THE CHASE.

YOU'RE ON A SINKING SHIP. BUT THAT DOESN'T HAVE TO BE THE CASE.

YOU HAVE THE OPTION TO DO THE RIGHT THING.

THESE PEOPLE...LET THEM GO... SET THEM FREE.

IT'S NOT THAT SIMPLE.

I DIDN'T SAY ANYTHING ABOUT MAKING THE *SIMPLE* CHOICE.

I HAVE SUPERIORS--

YOUR SUPERIORS ARE CUTTING THEIR LOSSES.

LOSSES THAT *INCLUDE* YOU.

I'VE DEALT WITH KASHMIR VENNEMA--I'VE DEALT WITH *YOU*--ENOUGH TO KNOW...

"...YOU'RE SMART ENOUGH TO SEE THE UPSIDE...EVEN WHEN YOUR WORLD IS COMING TO AN END."

Transport and Logistics.

VROOOT! VROOOT! VROOOT!

WHERE DO I GO FROM HERE?

I NEVER HAD THE CHANCE TO CLIMB THE CORPORATE LADDER.

I'M GLAD...GLAD IT'S FINALLY OVER.

TRANSDIMENSIONAL TRANSFER IN 3...2...1...

VROOOT! VROOOT!

TRANSDIMENSIONAL TRANSFER IN 3...2...1...

YOU THINK CATCHING ME CHANGES ANYTHING?

MY MISSION'S COMPLETE. I CAN REST NOW.

I HOPE YOU UNDERSTAND THAT.

AND YOU...YOU'RE TRAPPED HERE--

VROOOT! VROOOT!

TRANSDIMENSIONAL TRANSFER IN 3...2...

NOT THINKING OF LEAVING WITHOUT US, WERE YOU?

I MIGHT'VE CONSIDERED IT... BUT HAWKEYE AND IRON MAN WOULD *NEVER* LET ME LIVE IT DOWN IF I STRANDED YOU IN AN ALTERNATE UNIVERSE.

YOU'RE THE FOURTH FOR WEDNESDAY NIGHT POKER.

GOOD CALL.

ABOUT THAT...

IF I'M GOING TO SEND YOU BACK TO YOUR ORIGIN DIMENSION, NOW'S THE TIME.

I KNOW YOU'LL SET THE HOUNDS ON THE OTHERS...

...THE ONES WHO GOT AWAY...

...YOU KNOW THIS ISN'T THE KASH WE CAME HERE WITH, DON'T YOU?

YOU KNOW HOW IT FELT LIKE WE MIGHT BE SETTING OURSELVES UP FOR BETRAYAL?

WE SHOULD HAVE *TRUSTED* OUR INSTINCTS.

...BUT I TRUST YOU'LL KEEP YOUR WORD AND FORGET ABOUT ME.

I JUST WANT TO GO *HOME*...

"...WHEREVER THAT IS."

**Avengers Tower. Later.**

STARK

CHIN UP, NATASHA.

I KNOW IT DOESN'T FEEL LIKE IT, BUT THIS IS A *WIN.*

WE MADE IT BACK HOME-- MORE OR LESS IN ONE PIECE.

"AND THERE ARE MORE THAN A FEW WORLDS, ALL IN DESPERATE NEED OF HELP, THAT SAW THE RETURN OF THEIR *HEROES.*

"A.R.M.O.R.* HELPED US KEEP OUR PROMISE TO DR. CONNORS.

"WE FOUND A NEW WORLD FOR HIS PEOPLE. A PLACE WHERE THEY'LL BE SAFE. WHERE THEY CAN THRIVE.

*ALTERNATE REALITY MONITORING AND OPERATIONAL RESPONSE AGENCY.

"THEY'VE TAKEN YOUR COUNTERPART INTO CUSTODY. SHE WON'T SEE THE LIGHT OF DAY FOR A LONG, LONG TIME.

"AND ALL THE DIFFERENT VERSIONS OF KASHMIR VENNEMA ARE SCATTERED. THEIR EMPIRE'S BEEN TOPPLED, AND THEY WOULDN'T DARE PEEK OUT OF THEIR HIDEY HOLES."

HAWKEYE ONCE TOLD ME THAT I NEED TO LEARN HOW TO *APPRECIATE* THE SMALL VICTORIES.

MAYBE... JUST THIS ONCE...HE'S RIGHT.

I KNOW... I JUST...

THE... OTHER ME... SHE SAID THOSE WOMEN...THE INNER COUNCIL...DESERVED TO DIE FOR WHAT THEY DID.

AND...I TRY TO CONVINCE MYSELF THAT I'M NOTHING LIKE THAT WOMAN...THAT MY BACKGROUND HAS MADE ME A DIFFERENT PERSON... A BETTER PERSON.

"...BUT I AGREED WITH HER.

"I'M GLAD THEY'RE DEAD.

...WHAT I'M TALKING ABOUT, LADIES, IS A NEW BEGINNING.

WE ALL KNOW THAT VENNEMA MULTIVERSAL COLLAPSED UNDER ITS OWN WEIGHT.

THERE WERE SIMPLY TOO MANY QUEEN BEES AND NOT ENOUGH DRONES.

THAT JUST BREEDS A CULTURE OF MISTRUST.

BUT A SMALL GROUP... THIS GROUP... CAN DO GREAT THINGS.

WE STILL HAVE ACCESS TO MANY OF VENNEMA MULTIVERSAL'S RESOURCES: THE HIDDEN WAREHOUSES, THE SUPPLY CACHES.

THERE'S STILL A LOT OF MONEY TO BE MADE IN THE MULTIVERSE.

CULLEN BUNN '12 & FRAN GAVIL LAE '12

WE JUST HAVE TO ASK OURSELVES ONE QUESTION.

WHICH WORLD FIRST?

SOMEWHERE IN THE DISORGANIZED MESS THAT IS MY FILING SYSTEM, THERE'S A PIECE OF PAPER THAT SERVES AS A LITANY OF WHAT MIGHT HAVE BEEN.

I HAD THAT SHEET OF PAPER IN FRONT OF ME WHEN I HAD MY FIRST CONVERSATION WITH THE UBER-TALENTED (AND FELLOW '80s ACTION MOVIE FAN) LAUREN SANKOVITCH ABOUT THE POSSIBILITY OF DOING A CAPTAIN AMERICA TEAM-UP BOOK. IN ADDITION TO A FEW EXCITEDLY SCRAWLED NOTES, I STARTED A LIST OF CHARACTERS I WANTED TO SEE CAP JOIN ON A SERIES OF WILD ADVENTURES.

HAWKEYE, BLACK WIDOW, IRON MAN, NAMOR, HOWARD THE DUCK, VALKYRIE, THOR, HULK, U.S.ACE (ALONG WITH A MONKEY DRESSED IN A BUCKY COSTUME), THE ENIGMA FORCE, UNION JACK, DR. STRANGE... THE LIST GOES ON AND ON, BUT I REMEMBER THOSE NAMES AT LEAST. IT WOULD HAVE BEEN AWESOME TO TELL THOSE STORIES, BUT — ALAS — WE'VE REACHED THE END.

IN THE FIRST ARC OF THIS SERIES, HAWKEYE TELLS CAP "WE DID A GOOD THING HERE TODAY, STEVE. JUST BE HAPPY WITH IT." AND THOSE WORDS FROM THE JEREMY RENNER LOOKALIKE IN PURPLE APPLY TO THIS BOOK. WHILE I HAVE OTHER STORIES TO TELL, I WAS ABLE TO WRITE 13 ISSUES OF WILD CAPTAIN AMERICA ADVENTURES... AND I HAD A LOT OF FUN DOING IT. I INTRODUCED SOME NEW CHARACTERS... AND I HAVE IT ON GOOD AUTHORITY THAT YOU'LL BE SEEING KASHMIR "JUST CALL ME KASH" VENNEMA (WHO APPEARED IN ALMOST EVERY ISSUE OF THIS SERIES) AND THE COVENANT (WHO APPEARED IN THE NAMOR ISSUE) AGAIN.

I'D LIKE TO THANK LAUREN SANKOVITCH, JAKE THOMAS, JOHN DENNING, FRANCESCO FRANCAVILLA, ALESSANDRO VITTI, MATTEO BUFFAGNI, JAY LEISTEN, BARRY KITSON, WILL CONRAD, JAVIER TARTAGLIA, STUART IMMONEN, WADE VON GRAWBARGER, MATTHEW WILSON, GABRIELE DELL'OTTO, KALMAN ANDRASOFSKY, PATCH ZIRCHER, MATT HOLLINGSWORTH, CRIS PETER, JOE CARAMAGNA (WHO LETTERED THIS ISSUE, SO WHO KNOWS IF I REALLY THANKED HIM OR NOT), AND ALL THE OTHER FOLKS WHO HELPED BRING THIS SERIES TO LIFE. I'M SURE I MISSED SOMEONE IN THAT LIST, BUT I'M GRATEFUL TO ALL OF YOU FOR "TEAMING UP" WITH ME TO WORK ON THIS SERIES.

MOST OF ALL, THANKS TO YOU GUYS FOR READING THE BOOK! I HOPE YOU HAD AS MUCH FUN READING IT AS I HAD WRITING IT!

-CULLEN BUNN


FOR MORE CAP, CHECK OUT
CAPTAIN AMERICA #1

ON SALE NOW!
REMENDER, ROMITA JR., WHITE

FOR MORE BLACK WIDOW, CHECK OUT
SECRET AVENGERS #1

ON SALE
SPENCER, ROSS, WILSON

FOR A LISTING OF MORE MARVEL COLLECTIONS, DOWNLOAD

# MARVEL BACKLIST READING CHRONOLOGY

Go to your local comic shop to pick up these great collections!

And stay tuned to the Marvel App for more amazing collection releases.

To find a comic shop near you visit www.comicshoplocator.com

MARVEL

www.marvel.com

TM & © 2011 MARVEL & SUBS